

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A waterproof connector comprising:
a housing (11, 13) having an engaging hole formed therein;
a mating housing (31) connectable with the housing (11, 13); and
a loop-shaped sealing member (26, 40) including a sealing part (27)
formed from an elastomer, the sealing part being mounted on the housing (11, 13) and
sealed elastically between said housing (11, 13) and said mating housing (31) and a
lock (28a, 41a) connected to formed from a rigid resin material and having a reinforcing
portion molded integrally with said sealing part (27) such that said sealing part and said
reinforcing portion of said lock defines a continuous matrix of elastomeric and rigid resin
materials, said lock further including a locking claw unitary with the reinforcing portion
and locked to an the engaging hole (14a) on said housing (11) for preventing said
sealing part (27) from slipping off said housing (11, 13), wherein said lock (28a, 41a) of
said sealing member (26, 40) is made of a highly rigid material.

2. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 1, wherein
a the reinforcing portion (28, 41b) made of the same material as a material for said lock
(28a, 41a) is formed integrally with said lock (28a, 41a) is at both sides of said locking
claw (28a, 41a) in a circumferential direction thereof; and said reinforcing portion (28,
41b) being fixed to said sealing part (27).

3. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 2, wherein
said reinforcing portion (28) is fixed to an entire periphery of a rear end of said sealing
part (27).

4. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 2, wherein said lock ~~(28a, 41a)~~ is fixed to said sealing part ~~(27)~~ by using a two-color molding method.

5. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 1, wherein the mating housing ~~(31)~~ is formed from a cast metal.

6. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 5, wherein the mating housing ~~(31)~~ is formed from cast aluminum.

7. (canceled).

8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 1, wherein the lock ~~(28a, 41a)~~ includes a slit ~~(28a2)~~ for ~~facilitate~~ facilitating deflection during mounting the sealing member ~~(26, 40)~~ on the housing ~~(11, 13)~~.

10. (currently amended) A waterproof connector, comprising:
a housing ~~(11)~~ having outer and inner housings ~~(12, 13)~~ connected to one another by a wall ~~(14)~~, the wall ~~(14)~~ being formed with a plurality of engaging holes ~~(14a)~~ formed therethrough;

a mating housing ~~(31)~~ formed from a metal material and being connectable with the housing ~~(11)~~ between the outer and inner housings ~~(12, 13)~~; and

a loop-shaped sealing member ~~(26, 40)~~ including an annular rubber sealing part ~~(27)~~ mounted on around an outer surface of the inner housing ~~(13)~~ and sealed elastically between said inner housing ~~(13)~~ and in inner surface ~~(31f)~~ of said mating housing ~~(31)~~ and a rear part ~~(28, 41)~~ formed from a rigid synthetic resin and molded integrally with the rubber sealing part ~~(27)~~ such that the rear part and said rubber sealing part define a continuous matrix of rubber and resin materials, the rear

part ~~(28, 41)~~ including at least one lock ~~(28a, 41a)~~ locked to the engaging hole ~~(14a)~~ on said housing ~~(11)~~ for preventing said sealing part ~~(27)~~ from slipping off said inner housing ~~(13)~~.

11. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 10, wherein the rear part ~~(28)~~ is integral with annular the rubber sealing part ~~(27)~~ entirely around an annular periphery of the annular rubber sealing part ~~(27)~~.

12. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 10, wherein the rear part ~~(41)~~ is integral with the annular rubber sealing part ~~(27)~~ at two diametrically spaced arc-shaped reinforcing parts ~~(41b)~~ on the annular rubber sealing part ~~(27)~~.

13. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 13, wherein the mating housing ~~(31)~~ is formed from cast aluminum.

14. (currently amended) The waterproof connector of claim 10, wherein the lock ~~(28a, 41a)~~ includes a slit ~~(28a2)~~ for facilitate deflection during mounting the sealing member ~~(26, 40)~~ on the housing ~~(11, 13)~~.